

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for cleaving glycation endproducts or cross-linked proteins in an organism, wherein said method comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound to said organism wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:  
1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneaminophenoxyisobutyric acid];  
4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid;  
L-bis-[4-(4-chlorobenzamidophenoxyisobutryl)cystine];  
4-(3,5-dichlorophenylureido)phenoxyisobutryl-1-amidocyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid;  
methylene bis [4,4'-(2-chlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyric acid)];  
1,1-dimethylbiguanide; and  
5-aminosalicylic acid.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said compound is 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneamino-phenoxyisobutyric acid].
3. The method of claim 1 wherein said compound is 4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid.
4. A method of reversing deleterious effects of aging in an organism wherein said effects are formation of glycation endproducts or protein cross-linking, wherein said method comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound to said organism wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:  
1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneaminophenoxyisobutyric acid];  
4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutryl]-4-aminobenzoic acid;  
L-bis-[4-(4-chlorobenzamidophenoxyisobutryl)cystine];  
4-(3,5-dichlorophenylureido)phenoxyisobutryl-1-amidocyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid;  
methylene bis [4,4'-(2-chlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyric acid)];  
1,1-dimethylbiguanide; and  
5-aminosalicylic acid.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said compound is 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneamino-phenoxyisobutyric acid].
6. The method of claim 4 wherein said compound is 4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyl)-4-aminobenzoic acid.
7. A method of reversing complications resulting from diabetes wherein said complications result from formation of glycation endproducts or protein cross-linking, wherein said method comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound to said organism wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:
  - 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneaminophenoxyisobutyric acid];
  - 4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyl)-4-aminobenzoic acid;
  - L-bis-[4-(4-chlorobenzamidophenoxyisobutyl)cystine];
  - 4-(3,5-dichlorophenylureido)phenoxyisobutyl-1-amidocyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid;
  - methylene bis [4,4'-(2-chlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyric acid)];
  - 1,1-dimethylbiguanide; and
  - 5-aminosalicylic acid.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein said compound is 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneamino-phenoxyisobutyric acid].
9. The method of claim 7 wherein said compound is 4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyl)-4-aminobenzoic acid.
10. A method of reversing progress in a patient of rheumatoid arthritis, Alzheimer's disease, uremia, neurotoxicity, or atherosclerosis, wherein said method comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound to said organism wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:
  - 1,4-benzene-bis[4-methyleneaminophenoxyisobutyric acid];

5-aminosalicylic acid.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein said compound is 4-[(3,5-dichlorophenylureidophenoxyisobutyl)-4-aminobenzoic acid.